US 40 Railroad Crossing Replacement DelDOT Contract No. T201100507 Public Information Meeting – July 9, 2013 Oberle Elementary School 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

On Tuesday, July 9, 2013, the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) in conjunction with Norfolk Southern Railway conducted an Informational Meeting for the replacement of the existing railroad crossing on US 40 just east of Route 72. The meeting was held as an "open house", and staff members provided information and answered questions. The information was displayed on presentation boards and handouts were provided to all attendees. The purpose of the meeting was to provide information about the upcoming US 40 Railroad Crossing Replacement project and corresponding detours. The project includes safety improvements to provide a smooth crossing, correct drainage issues and add sidewalks compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The project start date is scheduled to be August 5, 2013 with night work requiring lane closures being performed only between the hours of 7:30pm to 5:00am through August 8, 2013. Beginning on August 9, 2013 at 7:30pm there will be a full road closure of US 40 until 5:00am on August 26, 2013. The contractor is required to work 24hours/day, 7 days a week during the full closure period with the ultimate goal of opening the road prior to the August 26, 2013 deadline. All local businesses will remain open during the road closure but regional and local detours will be in effect. More specifically, the proposed improvements include constructing new railroad tracks and crossing at a higher elevation to provide for a smooth crossing. A new and upgraded drainage system will be installed to take water away from the crossing and the roadway. A new ADA compliant sidewalk with crossing gates to provide safe pedestrian crossing of the tracks is proposed. The existing barrier and median pavement will be removed on both sides of the crossing and the eastbound left turn lane will be reconfigured to provide better guidance and safety to motorists. The estimated cost for this federally funded project is \$1 million.

There were a total of **32** attendees who were presented with the display plans that demonstrated existing conditions, proposed construction and detour routes for the project. There was only one (1) comment form received and is attached. In general, the public attendees agreed with the safety concerns of the existing crossing and the overall necessity of the project. The main concern revolved around the closure of US40 and the potential impact on local businesses. Some additional verbal comments were the following:

Several individuals were pleased that the crossing was finally being replaced and thought this should have been completed years ago.

Request for the potential use of temporary cameras on detour routes with access on the project web site.

Request to limit cut through traffic on Reybold Road.

Request to post daily construction updates on the project web site.

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DelDOT Public Relations advertised this meeting through their normal channels. Additionally, numerous calls were made to the businesses within the vicinity of the proposed project. A separate meeting with the business owners was held on July 2, 2013 to present the project in detail.

Project Information is posted on DelDOT's project web site at: http://www.deldot.gov/information/projects/RailroadXing/rt40/index.shtml